

7 October 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Operations Administration

SUBJECT : CIA Briefing of Randall Committee

1. Mr. Allen Dulles during the course of 35 minutes covered the following major topics:

- Political developments in the USSR since the death of Stalin
- Economic measures in agriculture and consumer goods to improve the lot of the people
- Policy shifts in the various satellites
- Soviet capabilities
 - Recent atomic developments and their meaning
 - Soviet long-range air force
 - Soviet basic military strength and disposition
- Soviet intentions
 - No immediate indications of aggression
 - Peace at no price
 - Continuation of "peace offensive" to relax specific tensions and disrupt the free world coalition
 - Long-range hostility to West probably unchanged

2. Mr. Acheson in approximately 25 minutes dealt with the following:

- Russian industrial growth, prewar, postwar and projections for the future, as compared with U.S.
- Russian resources, self-sufficient except for coke, rubber, zinc, copper and tin
- Allocation of Russian GNP among the various sectors of the economy by Russian industrial production for full mobilization
- Russian scientific and technical achievements and education of scientific, etc., personnel.

Postwar trends in Russia and Soviet Bloc external trade

Bloc aggregate trade with the West compared with previous year (1938)

Percentage of foreign trade of selected European countries that flows to and from the Soviet Bloc, 1938, '48 and '52

Soviet Bloc integration in the economic scene and the growth of intra-Bloc trade 1947-1952

Recent Soviet trade offensive

Participation in ECE and ECAFE meetings;

Offers to sell strategic goods to free world including U.S. for cash and consumer goods;

Efforts and agreements to obtain consumer goods, especially food (see attached).

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